

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT

THOMAS L. Black

FILE NO.

65-59181

SECTION NO.

1

SERIALS

1

Thru

25

NOTICE

THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L BlackDate: 1-78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
6	6-6-50	Letter from SAC PH to Director; AHN: Lab	1	1	
6	6-16-50	Letter from Lab to SAC NK	2	2	
7	6-5-50	Teletype from Ba to SACs NY, PH, and Director	1	1	
8	6-8-50	Letter to Director from SAC NK w/Encl. Letter and photograph	1/2	1/2	
9	6-7-50	Teletype from N.Y. to SAC PH and Director	1	1	
10	6-7-50	Teletype from NH to SACs N.Y., NK, PH, and Director	1	1	
11	6-7-50	Teletype from PH to SACs NK, N.Y. and Director	2	2	
NR	6-8-50	Typed copy of teletype from HQ to NY, PH & AI Capt. Harry Gold	2	—	Bufile 65-57449
12	6-6-50	Teletype from PH to SAC NK, N.Y. and Director	2	—	Bufile 65-57449
13	6-6-50	Teletype from NK to SAC N.Y., PH, and Director	2	1	
14	6-13-50	Letter from SAC NK to Director	1	1	
NR	6-5-50	Memo from A.H. Belmont to Mr Ladd with ref to Harry Gold	1	—	Bufile 65-57449

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 1-78
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
1	6-9-50	Laboratory work sheet w/Encl photo copy of letter to include negatives and exposed copy	1/2	1/2	Two negatives of letter not processed.
1	6-9-50	Laboratory work sheet ENCLOSURE	2	2	
1	6-2-50	Letter from SAC NK to Director and Laboratory	1	1	
NR	6-2-50	memo from Mr. Ladd to Director. Capt. Harry Gold	5	-	Bufile 65-57449
NR	5-27-50	Teletype from NK to SACs N.Y., PH, and Director ^{copy} stamped	3	-	Bufile 65-57449
2	6-7-50	Letter from SAC Ba to Director	1	1	
3	6-6-50	Letter from SAC Ba to Director	1	1	
4	6-5-50	Letter from SAC PH to Director	1	1	
5	6-5-50	Letter from SAC PH to Director	1	1	
6	6-12-50	Laboratory work sheet w/Encl copy of negatives and exposed copies	1/8	1/8	Negatives of enclosures not processed
6	6-12-50	Laboratory worksheet for Doc. in	1	1	
6	6-12-50	Laboratory worksheet for Doc. in	1	1	

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 1-78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
15	6-12-50	Report from NK to HQ	33	—	Referred to another agency
16	6-5-50	Teletype from PH to HQ	1	1	
NR	6-13-50	Teletype from HQ to SACS N.Y., PH, AL	2	—	Bufile 65-57449
16	6-9-50	Letter to Sec. of Treasury from AG to HQ	1	—	Referred to another agency
17	6-15-50	Memo from A.H. Belmont to Mr. Ladd	1	1	
18	6-15-50	Typed copy of teletype to SAC PH, WFO, and Director	1	1	
19	6-16-50	Letter from SAC WFO to Director	1	—	Referred to another agency
20	6-13-50	Letter from SAC PH to Director	1	1	
NR	6-16-50	Memo from V.P. Reay to A.H. Belmont in ref to David Greenglass	1	—	Bufile 65-59028
NR	6-16-50	Teletype from PH to Capt. SAC N.Y. and Director ^{Harvey} _{Shel}	1	—	Bufile 65-57449
21	6-16-50	Letter from SAC N.Y. to Director	4	4	
22	6-9-50	Teletype from PH to SAC N.Y. and Director	5	—	Bufile 65-57449

File No: 65-59181

Re: Thomas L. Black

Date: 1-78
(month/year)

[illegible]

U. S. Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

65
59181

SECTION 1
SERIALS 1-25

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 2, 1950

FROM : SAC, Newark

Attention: FBI Laboratory

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

117552

Re Philadelphia teletype dated June 2, 1950, requesting procurement of known handwriting specimens of subject.

There is enclosed herewith a letter in subject's handwriting as obtained from the files of the Chellis Austin Apartments, Newark, New Jersey, former residence of subject.

It is requested that the original letter be returned to the Newark Office following examination inasmuch as the manager at Chellis Austin desires it be returned to his file.

Enclosure (1)
SPECIAL DELIVERY
REGISTERED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

NK File #65-4074
LGT:hmc

cc: Philadelphia
cc: New York

RECORDED - 83

SE 25

JUN 5 1950

INDEXED FILES

56 JUL 17 1950

RECEIVED AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB
FOR LAB. REPORT
DATE 6/9/50

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Recorded
6/9/50 cm

AF 6

6/15

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

File # 65-59181
Lab. # D-117552 AU

NO LAB FILE

Examination requested by: Newark (65-4074)

Date of reference communication: Letter 6/2/50

Date Received: 6/5/50

Examination requested: Doc

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Bradley

no ident Q1 with Q2 → Q4

no ident Q1 → Q4 in Nat. Sec. File - copies
added.

6-15-50
WWTB

Specimens submitted for examination

Q1 A handwritten letter, beginning "Dear Mr Andrews, I am enclosing...",
and ending on reverse side "... be late in paying my rent. Sincerely
T. L. BLACK."

Return evidence

2- Phila.
1- N.Y.

Lab Rpt
6-16-50
WWTB

52 AUG 23 1950

5th
7-WWTB

21 Dear Mr L that the
and for you to of is
L L Black

22 Dear L that the
for you to of

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Recorded
6/9/50 cm

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

File # 65-59121-1 ✓
Lab. # D-117552 AU

NO LAB FILE

Examination requested by: Newark (65-4074)

Date of reference communication: Letter 6/2/50

Date Received: 6/6/50

Examination requested: Doc

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Bradley

OK to file - wrap

*Returned
6-16-50
wwb*

-ENCL-

Specimens submitted for examination

- Q1 A handwritten letter, beginning "Dear Mr Andrews , I am enclosing..," and ending on reverse side "... be late in paying my rent. Sincerely T. L. BLACK."

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

52 AUG 23 1950

JUN 4 1950

ENCLOSURE

~~62 AUG 7 1950~~

[Signature]

6771

THOMAS L. BLACK

Sunday, A.M.

Dear Mr. Andrews,

I am enclosing a check for January's rent. It is dated Jan 15. I am sorry that I have been late with my rent for the past three or four months and I feel that I owe you an explanation.

I have subscribed to the Bonds on the salary reduction plan at National Oil Products Co. to the extent that I receive just enough cash each pay day to meet normal living expenses. My rent is being paid out of royalties on an invention which has been taken over by General

Organics, Inc. of New York City
They have not once sent my
check on time, and I have
therefore had to make you wait
for the rent.

I am going to insist that
they send my check on the first of
each month. And I trust that
I will not again be late in
paying my rent.

Sincerely,
J. L. Black

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 7, 1950

FROM : SAC, Baltimore

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

Re Philadelphia letter to Bureau dated 6/6/50, forwarding to the Baltimore Office a 100 foot reel of 16 mm motion picture film of subject BLACK, with the request that the film be displayed to WHITTAKER CHAMBERS.

This is to advise that the film was displayed to Mr. CHAMBERS on June 6, 1950, and he was unable to identify BLACK. He stated that he does not know BLACK and has never seen him.

In accordance with the request in referenced letter, the film is being forwarded to the New York Office for display to LOUIS BUDENZ and ELIZABETH BENTLEY.

JCT/mt
65-1751

cc - New York (Encl.)
Philadelphia

REGISTERED MAIL, SPECIAL DELIVERY

RECORDED - 17

65-59181-2

EX-3

53 JUL 12 1950

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI.

DATE: 6/6/50

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS.
ESPIONAGE - R

Re Newark teletype to Baltimore dated 6/6/50.

As requested, Baltimore is returning original photograph of subject as enclosure to Newark.

TMM:DEP
65-1751CC Newark - Encl.
Philadelphia
New York City

RECORDED - 20

JUN 7 1950

EX-55

24

FIVE

56 JUN 17 1950

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 6/5/50

TO: Director, FBI
 FROM: SAC, Philadelphia
 SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was
ESPIONAGE - R

There is being forwarded to the Baltimore Office, with a copy of this letter, a 100 foot roll of 16 mm. motion picture film which has been developed. This film is of the subject BLACK taken at his place of employment in Philadelphia, June 2, 1950. It is requested that the Baltimore Office project this film for WHITTAKER CHAMBERS in a further effort to have him effect an identification.

Upon completion of the showing by the Baltimore Office, it is requested that the film be forwarded as quickly as possible to the New York Office. The New York Office is requested to project it for LOUIS BUDENZ and ELIZABETH BENTLEY. When the New York Office has finished, the film should be returned to Philadelphia.

For the assistance of the New York and Baltimore Offices in projecting the film, it is noted that there are approximately 56 feet exposed. The first 10 feet were exposed at 16 frames per second, and the balance at 32 frames per second.

rwh/rac
 65-4332

cc: Baltimore (Encl.) (REGISTERED MAIL, SPECIAL DELIVERY)
 New York

RECORDED - 29

165-59181-4
 JUN 17 1950

53 JUN 27 1950

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

DATE: June 5, 1950

FROM: SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

There is enclosed for the New York Office, a film pack containing ten exposures of a photograph of the subject from the 1929 Pennsylvania State College Yearbook.

It is requested that this film be developed by New York. The New York Office will retain sufficient copies to display to LOUIS BUDENZ and ELIZABETH BENTLEY; will forward sufficient copies to the Baltimore Office to show to WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, and will send six prints and all of the negatives to the Philadelphia Office.

RWH:VPF
65-4332

cc: New York (Enclosure) *Special Del.* REGISTERED MAIL - Att: Photographic Laboratory
Baltimore

RECORDED - 2

165-59181-5
JUN 7 1950
3

53 JUN 20 1950

56 JUL 17 1950

EYE

6-12-50

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

File # 65-59181-6V
Lab. # D-117701 AU

NO LAB. FILE

Examination requested by: Philadelphia (65-4322)

Date of reference communication: Let. 6-6-50

Date Received: 6-7-50

Examination requested: Doc. - P & C

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Bradley

*Returned
6-16-50
WWS*

Plat 7-wwb

Specimens submitted for examination

*Plat 10-2
6/12/50*

Q2 Sheet of yellow paper bearing letter hm. in ink, dated June 9, 1946,
pg. "Dear Tank; It's 8:45 now & I hope to get this out"

Q3 Piece of yellow paper numbered "5" on one side and "6" on the other,
page 5 pg. "Page 12k Dept"

Q4 Spot of white paper from which some portions are missing, bearing hm.
in pencil and in ink, to "30 1642"

*POSITIVE ATTENTION
ENCLOSURE*

*RETURN TO
BUREAU EVIDENCE*

Dear Yank:

Sun, PM. June 9, 1940

It's 8:40 now & I hope to get this out tonight (9:30) so here goes. About the information you wanted. Your notes are clear; it's just that I don't understand them. For your first thing, I'll just quote from your own stuff. Expt 6 Add 100 g lanolin (technical) to solution of 16 g KOH (87.5%) in 400 ml MeOH. Reflux 3 hrs.

Expt 7 Saponify 100 g lanolin with ~~13~~^{13.2} g. KOH in 50 ml MeOH. Added to 100 g melted lanolin (technical) Reflux

Turns clear in 1 minute. Let stand to cool.

Expt 9 Saponify 100 g technical lanolin with 13.2 g KOH (10% excess over expt 7) in 50 ml MeOH.

Clears without boiling in less than one minute.

Boiled 2 minutes, with foaming. Let cool in flask.

Expt 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 use same proportions. In Expt 10 you used a 1 liter Erlenmeyer, heated with stirring, on hot plate. In 3 minutes the mixture was clear began to foam up. Reheated, keeping foam under control.

After 7 minutes boiled gently, seeking to remove the MeOH. Raised hot plate setting to 400 & after 15 minutes had lost 13 g MeOH out of original 80 g. The soap became thicker. Foaming at times became great, though usually was low.

Heated $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. more till 30 g. were removed, leaving 50. Residual soap was quite stiff.

In Expt 18 (also a 200 g lanolin batch) you heated 5 minutes, foamed up twice. Then spread mixture in 3 large Petri dishes & heated in oven in attempt to remove all MeOH. Heated up to 150° (100-150°).

In Expt 18 (500 batch of lanolin), you used ~~insoluble~~ set
at 300-400 for 10 minutes. Foamed as usual.
Expt 19 200g melted lanolin. Added solution of 25.8g KOH
(87.7% assay, new material) in 100ml MeOH. Oil bath
at 100°.

Expt 20, 50g lanolin with solution of 6.5g KOH in
25 ml MeOH. A somewhat crumbly ppt. formed.

Expt 21, same as 20 but used 50g. of lanolin [for
no apparent reason to me]

In Expt 27 you use cosmetic lanolin. (100g of it) + oil
bath at 80°.

In Expt 21E 200g lanolin (tech + cosm mixed) were
saponified in less than one minute heating with
25.8g KOH in 100ml MeOH.

In Expt 29 150g cosmetic lanolin with 19.8 KOH in
75ml MeOH.

In Expt 32 400g lanolin (Monsie's Lanum USP grade)
were saponified with 52g KOH, technical, flakes, which
dissolved at once in 200 ml MeOH giving a milky solution.
Mixture was heated at 60-80°C for 15 minutes in a flask
in an oil bath. It became clear at once. Then 4g NH₄Cl
were added, & the bath was raised to distill off MeOH,
stirring all the while. About 85ml distilled at 90-100°C
in a period of 1 hour. Finally, the bath was raised
to 160°C & a total of 140ml (90%) MeOH was recovered.
Vacuum was applied to remove more MeOH.

In Expt 37 200g lanolin, technical (15% cholesterol) in a
400ml beaker, heated in water bath. Added KOH soln
in MeOH soln (26g/100ml) ~~total of 100ml~~ i.e. about 100.

③ of KOH solution. Mixture became thinner & clearer. Added about 15g NH_4Cl . No NH_3 came off & the scrap had pH of 13. Poured mass on tray & dried in oven, ~~at~~ 65°C for several hours.

In Expt 38/50g lanolin (15.2% cholesterol) were saponified with 25 ml of KOH in MeOH (26.4g of KOH per liter of MeOH solution). Mixture became dark red & on cooling became dark brown. It was taken up in 150 ml MeOH, hot, giving an almost clear mixture. On cooling soap came out as large granules.

In Expt 37C 50g lanolin (15.2% cholesterol) were saponified with 25 ml of KOH solution, in a beaker kept in an oil bath at 82° , stirred several minutes. The MeOH slowly bubbled off & was replaced ~~in~~ ^{from} time to time. The mixture tested alkaline, pH 13-14, both immediately after mixing & 5 minutes later.

In Expt 290 20g lanolin (15.2% cholesterol) were saponified by boiling for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour with 10 ml of KOH solution in MeOH (26.4g/l).

In Expt 37G ~~lanolin~~ 200g lanolin, 100 ml KOH solution in MeOH (26.4g/l) were added when oil bath was at 75°C . Used 3-necked 1l. flask with stirrer & condenser. There was slight foaming. pH was about 13. Continued refluxing for 5 minutes.

In Expt 21F 50g lanolin (15.2% cholesterol) in a 250 ml beaker heated for 2 minutes with 25 ml of KOH solution. The mixture was thinned out with 50 ml MeOH, giving a clear dark red solution, pH 13.

All these quotes I took are in correct order as far as your page numbering is concerned. I think you

Yours &c. D.C. & L.H. S.C. 7/6 1929 D.C. & L.H. 6/6/50

④ can clearly see that your most frequently (as a matter of fact almost always) used ratio of quantities was 50 ml of KOH solution for 100 ml of kerosene, where the KOH solution is made up of 264 g KOH per liter of MeOH . The difference come in how and for how long you heated. I might also add that you had different ~~suspending~~ treatments following the heating too, sometimes throwing in salts or H_2SO_4 , or nothing. If you know doubt, don't need all of that at the moment, I hope. You say in your letter "Later we made up KOH solution (find how we made it)". All I've found is what I've seen, that already gives you, which is 264 g KOH per liter of MeOH .

About your second question as to whether insoluble portion is all crystalline or not I will quote from book what I feel are remarks pertaining to that. But quotes again given in order, by page.

Page 9 Expt 7 A2a, presumably α -cholesterol, was taken up in 40 ml acetone-MeOH 2:1, or 30 volumes per gram, since A2a weighed 3.2 grams. It did not dissolve completely when hot. On cooling the precipitation produced an interlacing network of crystals throughout the entire volume. It was filtered, recovering 2.5 grams or 78%. This checks the assertion of Doré & Barrett that 80% of the α -cholesterol can be recovered from 2:1 acetone-MeOH. [Note: Frank, this isn't actually ~~with~~ ^{at} a case where unsaponified part was treated but I thought it might be useful.]

Don

⑤ Page 124 Exp 31 H. Hb 15.5g was dissolved in 450 ml MeOH at boiling. Solution was complete, but it was turbid, as Nuchar GFO was added, & the material was filtered hot. However, the Nuchar seemed to act as a nucleus for crystallization, of a fact previously observed in Exp 22 D2c. Cooled, crystals melting at 130° (soft below 120°) and sticking came out of the clear filtrate. Most cholesterol remained in the Nuchar. It was eluted with the hot filtrate from the first crop of crystals, & cooling this wash yielded crystals that melted at 134°. Again, therefore, MeOH failed to purify cholesterol.

Page 147 Exp 37 105g of A2 were heated with 700 ml MeOH & filtered hot thru a jacketed Büchner funnel. Filtration was slow, because of a fine precipitate. The precipitate was redissolved with 300 ml of hot MeOH & again filtered hot. This gave a precipitate, light tan in color, which weighed 12.0g. It melted above 120°, gave a typical negative L-B test, & was stored with crude isocholesterol.

Page 154 Exp 38 20g of 37D were heated to boiling with 200 ml MeOH. A small amount of isocholesterol was insoluble - it formed an oil at the bottom, & the main solution was decanted off. The isocholesterol fraction weighed but 0.8g. The main solution was allowed to cool to room temperature and then the crystals of soap were filtered off & dried.

Page 161 Exp 37G About 110g of 62 was taken up in 700 ml hot MeOH, then washed with 200 ml hot MeOH. Distillates of white crystals of isocholesterol forming a gum was obtained. This was discarded. The filtrate was allowed to stand for several hours, cooled to 20°C & filtered. The precipitate was dried at 140° melting to a yellow material which on cooling, etc., etc.

© And now ~~and~~ I wonder why you wanted that information because in your last page of notes you have a note & you say "Almost no unsaponifiable matter is left in the soap." Incidentally, I did come across other references to your treating of unsaponifiable part with MeOH, but I didn't quote them because they merely said something like "got precipitate and cooled filtrate." In other words they didn't describe precipitate still whether gum was or oil was there or not. I hope all of this makes more sense to you than it does to me.

About inquiries Polish Consul (they all speak Polish) has room for passports, visas, etc. Saw apparently pleasant old Pole who was Q "Will he have any official trouble in getting out?"

A. No can say. He must see local authorities in Poland. We know nothing. Q. How can we send him money? A. American Express or banks.

Q. What is current exchange rate? A. About 100 zlotys = 1 dollar. Q. Is that trip from Bytom to Warsaw safe only, physically speaking? A. Officially I can give no answer. Personally I wouldn't advise it. Q. What about travel facilities? A. (consulting map) Well from Bytom to Warsaw you are along a main r.r. route, but of course transportation is upset, displaced people are being moved, travel is difficult. Also we noted it was ~~from~~ Bytom Warsaw is about halfway across Poland. ~~Also~~

Now about airlines I saw TWA, American, KLM (the Dutch line) & British Overseas. What of all is that, not one of them is now serving Warsaw & they don't know when they will. American Airlines has proposed Warsaw-N.Y. but don't know when it will start. Stockholm-N.Y. \$69.25, including tax, can be prepaid. TWA. Paris to N.Y. is 431.75 if you pay here + 375 if you pay in Paris. KLM also serves from Stockholm-N.Y. (\$93 I think they charge, but over quicker

#65-59181-6

Q3



Don't check

207 10 KOT 140 90 dec 10
Heath
207 10 KOT 140 90 dec 10

To Saigon. Rayer of Joli
(Cable Photo King of Congo)

1929 1/2
N. 6
10/10
10/10
10/10

865-59181-6



RECORDED

6-12-50

. 11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICELaboratory Work SheetRe: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

File # 65-59181-6 ✓

Lab. # D-117701 AU

PC-27931DE

NO LAB. FILE

Examination requested by: Philadelphia (65-4332)

Date of reference communication: Let. 6-6-50

Date Received: 6-9-50

Examination requested: Doc. - P & C General chemical

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Bradley

Bradley
*Myers*Specimens submitted for examination

- Q2 Sheet of yellow paper bearing letter hw. in ink, dated June 9, 1946, bg. "Dear Yank: It's 8:45 now & I hope to get this out"
- Q3 Piece of yellow paper numbered "5" on one side and "6" on the other, page 5 bg. "Page 12, Expt"
- Q4 Sheet of white paper from which some portions are missing, bearing hw. in pencil and in ink, bg. "P38 1642"

RETURN EVIDENCE.*Dict.*

In answer to your specific inquiry, specimens Q2, Q3, and Q4
 will be subjected to chemical tests on the identification of lanolin as might be
 performed by an industrial chemist. Nothing of an unusual nature was
 noted from an examination of the writing appearing on these specimens.

Lab Rat
6-16-50
WMB:cc

Piz
WMB

RECORDED

6-12-50

, 11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICELaboratory Work SheetRe: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - RFile # 65-59181-6
Lab. # D-117701 AU

NO LAB. FILE

Examination requested by: Philadelphia (65-4332)

Date of reference communication: Let. 6-6-50

Date Received: 6-9-50

Examination requested: Doc. - ~~P & S~~ General Chemical

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Bradley

See D 117552

6-15-50
LWBSpecimens submitted for examination

- Q2 Sheet of yellow paper bearing letter hw. in ink, dated June 9, 1946, bg. "Dear Yank: It's 8:45 now & I hope to get this out"
- Q3 Piece of yellow paper numbered "5" on one side and "6" on the other, page 5 bg. "Page 124 Expt"
- Q4 Sheet of white paper from which some portions are missing, bearing hw. in pencil and in ink, bg. "P38 16A2"

RETURN EVIDENCE.

Lab Rpt
6-16-50
LWB5-Ed
LWB

TO : Director, FBI Attn: FBI Laboratory

DATE: 6/6/50

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

117701

There are enclosed two items as follows:

1. A six page handwritten letter dated Sun. P.M., June 9, 1946, addressed Dear YANK and unsigned. This letter deals chiefly with chemical tests.

2. A single sheet of paper from which some portions are missing, bearing handwritten notes, apparently concerning chemical tests or reactions.

These items were recovered from the home of the subject at 1929 North 6th Street, Philadelphia. BLACK is an associate of HARRY GOLD, an admitted Soviet Espionage Agent, and is himself a suspected Soviet Espionage Agent.

It is requested that the material in these items be reviewed to determine whether it concerns routine, legitimate chemical tests, such as would be performed by an industrial chemist.

It is requested that these items be returned to the Philadelphia Office upon completion of the examination. Although the evidentiary nature of this material at the present time is considered doubtful, it is requested that the chain be retained in the event examination reveals this material to be of value.

INH: cab
65-4332

Enclosures (REGISTERED MAIL)

RECORDED

165-59181-6

INDEX LAB FILES

53 JUL 18 1950

56 JUN 28 1950

UNRECORDED SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB
FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT
6/12/50

OK to
be used
for
summary

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 16, 1950

SAC, Newark

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on June 6, 1950 and from the Philadelphia office on June 9, 1950.

THOMAS L. BLACK, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R

John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO. 65-4074
FBI FILE NO. 65-59781
LAB. NO. D-117552
D-117701
PC-27931 DE

RECORDED - 59

Examination requested by: Newark and Philadelphia

Reference: Letters 6/2/50 and 6/6/50

Examination requested: Document - General Chemical

Specimens Submitted by Newark with letter dated June 2, 1950.

Q1 A handwritten letter, beginning "Dear Mr Andrews, I am enclosing..." and ending on reverse side "... be late in paying my rent. Sincerely T. L. BLACK."

Submitted by Philadelphia with letter dated June 6, 1950.

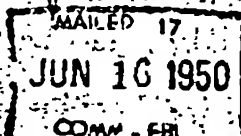
- Q2 Sheet of yellow paper bearing letter handwritten in ink, dated June 9, 1946, beginning "Dear Yank: It's 8:45 now & I hope to get this out...."
- Q3 Piece of yellow paper numbered "5" on one side and "6" on the other, page 5 beginning "Page 124 Expt."
- Q4 Sheet of white paper from which some portions are missing, bearing handwriting in pencil and ink, beginning "P3E 16A2...."

Result of Examination

Enclosure - REGISTERED MAIL

2 - Philadelphia, (65-4332) Enclosure - REGISTERED MAIL
1 - New York

Page 1



Continued next page

55 AUG 11 1950

It was concluded that specimens Q2, Q3 and Q4 were not written by the writer of specimen Q1.

In answer to your specific inquiry, specimens Q2, Q3 and Q4 deal with chemical tests on the saponification of lanolin as might be performed by an industrial chemist. Nothing of an unusual nature was noted from an examination of the writing appearing on these specimens.

Specimen Q1 is returned to the Newark office herewith. Specimens Q2, Q3 and Q4 are returned herewith to the Philadelphia office. Photographic copies are retained.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 5 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WA 6 NY 4 PH 2 FROM BALT 5 6-10 PM EDST

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP DASH R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE THREE, LAST.
AT NEW CASTLE, DEL., ONLY PLANT IN WHICH BLACK AS A CHEMIST MAY HAVE
BEEN INTERESTED WOULD APPEAR TO BE DELAWARE RAYON CO. THERE IS ALSO
IN WILMINGTON, CLOSE TO NEW CASTLE, THE MINQUADALE RESEARCH PEST CON-
TROL LABORATORY OPERATED BY THE DUPONT CO. WHICH ENGAGES SEVERAL CHEMISTS
BOTH PLACES HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION SINCE PRIOR TO NINETEEN FORTY.
HOWEVER, BIOCHEMICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, FRANKLIN INSTITUTE ENDOWED,
NEWARK, DEL., APPEARS TO BE MOST LOGICAL LOCATION IN WHICH BLACK MAY
HAVE BEEN INTERESTED. THIS FOUNDATION BEGAN OPERATING AT NEWARK,
DEL., IN NINETEEN FORTY, WAS FORMERLY AT PHILADELPHIA. INQUIRIES AT
HOTELS AND NEW CASTLE AND WILMINGTON REVEAL NO RECORDS AVAILABLE FOR
FORTY OR FORTYONE. BALTIMORE WILL ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN, AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE, A LIST OF CHEMISTS AT THE BIOCHEMICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
IN FORTY AND FORTYONE FOR SOURCES OF POSSIBLE CONTACTS OF BLACK.

MC FARLIN

END

ACK PLS

WA X BA R 4 NYC CJJ

PH PLS HOLD AFTER I ACK

ALSO NY PLS HOLD

BA R 2 PH LPM

WA EKOB R 6 WA NRJ

RECORDED - 74 165-59181-7
JUN 8 1950
no action necessary in

cc: Mr. Van Loan
Kuff - Black - long

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Newark

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 8, 1950

There are being submitted herewith copies of a photograph of the subject as obtained from LEWIS M. CARTER, Personnel Manager, NOPCO Chemical Company, Harrison, New Jersey.

The original photograph, showing members of the Camera Club of the National Oil Products Company, was taken in approximately 1940 and shows the subject seated next to ERNEST SEGESSEMAN.

Enclosures - 3

cc: New York (Encls.-3)
Philadelphia (Encls.-3)

LOT:HP
65-4074

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

EX-111

39

RECORDED - 35

INDEXED - 39

65-59181-8



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THOMAS L. BLANCH #1

APPROX.
1940

#1 THOMAS L. BLANCH
#2 ERNEST SPEDDEN

M. US

7/5/07 5'8 1/2"

220 LBS. HEAVY

REDDISH TALL W

DARK BROWN OR. AUBURN

3/4" CUT SLAR RT. THUMB

TRANS - LEFT EAR

ARM AND SHOULDER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 27 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

W. H. Clegg

CONF WASH 27 AND PHILA 5 FROM NEW YORK 7 2-04 AM

DIRECTOR AND SAC DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R. [REDACTED] AND LOUIS
BUDENZ ALL INTERVIEWED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. PHOTO WILL BE SHOWN
LATER.

670

SCHEIDT

END ACK PLS

NYC R -27 WA LRP

PH NY R 2-3-4-5- PH AAB

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-9

JUN 28 1950

58 JUN 14 1950

67

JUN - 7 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI NEW HAVEN

6-7-50

12-06 PM

RMP

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS NEW YORK NEWARK AND PHILADELPHIA URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP. R. RE NY TEL TO NH JUNE SIX.

RECORDS CONN. GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. REFLECT NO INFO RE SUBJECT

UNDER VARIOUS NAMES IN LIFE, ACCIDENT, OR MORTGAGE LOAN DEPTS. NO

RECORD OF GROUP INSURANCE WITH NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS CO. NO RECORD

AS CURRENT OR PAST AGENT OR BROKER OF CO. COULD HAVE MADE PAYMENTS IN

BEHALF OF OTHER PERSON. SUGGEST OBTAINING NAMES OF RELATIVES POSSIBLY

INSURED. RUC.

WILLIS

NK AND NY TO BE ADVISED

END.

ACK IN ORDER PLEASE

WA 12-08 PM OK FBI WASH DC DCL

PH OK FBI PH MOB

cc: Mr. VanLoan

65-59181-10

*5
917*

DISC
JUN 14 1950

RECORDED - 83

1950

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN -7 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

BUREAU 9 NEWARK 2 NEW YORK 4 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-7-50

8-00 P

DIRECTOR AND SACS U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP- R. ON EVENING, JUNE SIX, BLACK SENT LETTER ADDRESSED TO J. T. FASS, THREE SIX SEVEN MILLER AVE., BROOKLYN SEVEN, NY. SURVEILLANCE HAS REFLECTED BLACK SPENDS CONSIDERABLE TIME IN DRUG STORE AT TWO NAUGHT FOUR NAUGHT GERMANTOWN AVE. STORE OWNED BY BENJAMIN B. OMINSKY WITH WHOM BLACK APPEARS FRIENDLY. LEMS LAB., BELIEVED OWNED BY OMINSKY, LOCATED ABOVE DRUG STORE. GOLD HAS RELATIVE NAMED OMINSKY AND INQUIRIES BEING MADE TO DETERMINE IF GOLD RELATIVE IDENTICAL WITH BENJAMIN B. PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE DURING DAY, JUNE SEVEN, SHOWED NORMAL ACTIVITY AND NO APPARENT SUSPICION. SURVEY BLACK-S ACCT TODAY SHOWED CHECKS FOR ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN DOLLARS DATED JUNE THIRTEEN, FORTY SEVEN, AND BEARING NOTATION QUOTE TAXES ON FOUR NINE ONE SEVEN NORTH HUTCHINSON ST. FOR NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN UNQUOTE. PROPERTY OWNED BY EPHRAIM LEVIN SINCE JUNE, FORTY SEVEN, ACCORDING TO PHILA. REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY. EXCEPT FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS, AVERAGE BALANCE IN BLACK-S ACCOUNT-AT INDUSTRIAL TRUST WAS ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. ACCT OVERDRAWN

END PAGE ONE

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 18 1930

INDEXED - 83

RECORDED - 83

65-59181-11

JUN 14 1950

276

50

THIRTY EIGHT DOLLARS IN FIRST WEEK SEPT. FORTY SEVEN. NEWARK REPORTS
BY TEL BLACK-S ACCT AT WEST HUDSON NATL BANK CONTAINED CHECK FOR SEVEN
HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS DRAWN ON FINE ORGANICS ON PUBLIC NATL BANK, NYC.
FINE ORGANICS IS NY CONCERN LOCATED TWO ELEVEN EAST NINETEENTH ST.,
NYC PRESIDENT NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR, ONE FOUR ONE EAST EIGHTYEIGHTH ST.,
NYC, GENERAL MANAGER A. S. RICHER, AND VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY
ERNEST SEGESSEMAN. NY REQUESTED TO SEARCH INDICES FOR REFERENCES RE
ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY ON PART OF THESE THREE MEN. THIS SEVEN HUNDRED
FIFTY DOLLAR CHECK MAY BE SIMILAR TO THREE SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLAR
CHECKS DRAWN ON PUBLIC NATL BANK WHICH BLACK USED TO OPEN ACCT AT
INDUSTRIAL TRUST CO. PHILA., JAN. EIGHTEEN, FORTY SIX, MENTIONED IN
MYTEL JUNE SIX. INTERVIEW OF GOLD TODAY PRODUCED NO FURTHER INFO ON
BLACK.

CORNELIUS

cc: Mr. Van Loan

ACK IN ORDER PLS

BU PH R 9 WA FEJ

NK PH R 2 NK CEG

NY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 6 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nease
Mr. Winterrowd
Miss Gandy

1213
14-2-1
165-59181-135
JUN 8 1950
34

WASH 14 NEW YORK 7 PHILA 3 FROM NEWARK

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S NY, PH AND NEW HAVEN

URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK, ESP-R. RE NWK
TEL JUNE FIFTH. SUBJECT-S CHECKING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS AT WEST HUDSON
NATL BANK, HARRISON, N. J., BEING MONITORED. RECORDAK RECORDS BEING
EXAMINED TO ASCERTAIN PAYEES ON CHECKS ISSUED. REVIEW TO DATE REFLECTS
PAYMENTS OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY TWO DOLLARS
FIFTY FIVE CENTS IN EARLY FORTY FIVE TO CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INSUR-
ANCE CO., HARTFORD, CT. FOR INFO OF NEW HAVEN OFFICE, A STATEMENT HAS
BEEN OBTAINED FROM HARRY GOLD AT PHILADELPHIA TO EFFECT THAT BLACK WAS
ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES IN EARLY FORTIES. BLACK PRESENTLY RE-
SIDES ONE NINE TWO NINE NORTH SIXTH STREET, PHILA, PA., BUT AT TIME
OF ABOVE PAYMENTS HE RESIDED SEVENTEEN OXFORD STREET, NEWARK, N. J.,
WHILE EMPLOYED AT NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY, HARRISON, N. U. NEW
HAVEN SHOULD REVIEW RECORDS AT CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INS COMPANY
AND SUTEL ALL RESULT TO ABOVE OFFICES. EXPEDITE. NEW YORK ORIGIN.

MC KEE

NEW HAVEN ADVISED

RECORDED - 83

JUN 8 1950

WA AND NY AHOLD PLS PH ACK AND ADISC

PH NK R 3 PH RDD

cc: Mr. Van Loan

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: June 13, 1950

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: THOMAS I. BLACK, Was.
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to the report of SA LOUIS W. TURNER, dated June 12, 1950 at Newark.

There are enclosed herewith for the Philadelphia and New York Offices copies of a photograph of JACOB ISRAEL FASS, 357 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, who is associated with the Subject in the operation of the S. WOOD CHEMICAL COMPANY, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey. The original photograph was taken in 1942 and was obtained from FASS' file at RO-CO CHEMICAL COMPANY, Harrison, New Jersey.

CC: Philadelphia (Enc.-3)
New York (Enc.-3)

NK 65-4074
LGT:LB

RECORDED - 74
INDEXED 74

EX - 72

65-59181-14

65 JUL 17 1950

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 10 FROM PHILA

6-5-50

7-14 PM

DIRECTOR.....ROUTINE

Frederick

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK, ESP R. BUREAU REQUESTED OBTAIN PHOTOSTATIC COPIES ABOVE SUBJECT-S INCOME TAX RETURNS FROM NINETEEN THIRTYTWO THROUGH NINETEEN FIFTY. FOR ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING RETURNS FOLLOWING INFO SET OUT. NO SOCIAL SECURITY NO. EMPLOYER SINCE JUNE FORTYFIVE, CHARLES W. BERG LABORATORIES, ONE EIGHT TWO SEVEN NORTH FIFTH ST., PHILA. PRESENTLY EMPLOYED PART TIME BASIS BY SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., FORMERLY THREE THREE FIVE SEVEN MILLER ST., PHILA, NOW ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON, NJ. PRESENT RESIDENCE ONE NINE TWO NINE NORTH SIXTH ST., PHILA, PENNA. FORMER RESIDENCE ONE SEVEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, NJ, FROM JULY ONE, THIRTYSEVEN, TO JULY ONE, FORTYNINE. FORMER EMPLOYER, NINETEEN TWENTYNINE TO NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE, HOLBROOK CHEMICAL CO., JERSEY CITY, NJ, AND NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS CO., HARRISON, NJ, FROM FEB. TWENTY, THIRTYTHREE, TO JUNE THIRTY, FORTYFOUR. REQUEST INFO BE EXPEDITED FOR USE IN INTERVIEW CONTEMPLATED IN NEAR FUTURE.

RECORDED - 50

165-59181-16

JUN 14 1950

CORNELIUS

Letter to Treasury from A-2
agm

HFC PLS JUL 12 1950

EX-124

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD *h*DATE: June 15, 1950 *✓*

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.,
ESPIONAGE - R.

✓

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

At 3:00 pm today, SAC Cornelius called from Philadelphia to advise that Black appears to be opening up somewhat. Black has furnished a signed statement, admitting that Harry Gold told him, after the publicity on the Fuchs' apprehension, that he, Gold, was the American contact of Fuchs and that he, Black, should have told authorities but he did not do so. He said in this statement that he had no reason to disbelieve Gold. In fact, from his knowledge of Gold's activities, he had reason to believe that Gold was telling the truth.

Black has stated that in the early 1930's he and Ferdinand Heller went to Amtorg and saw Gaik Ovakhimian to tell him that they wanted to live in Russia. Ovakhimian told them that it would be more profitable for them to stay in this country and work for Russia and, therefore, they did this. Black has told the Agents he would tell them everything. Just how cooperative he will be remains to be seen. Black suggests that we talk to Ferdinand Heller. Mr. Cornelius advised that as soon as they get additional information from Black we may be in a position to talk to Heller. You will recall that Gold gave us the name, Ferdinand Heller, as an individual closely associated with Black.

I told Mr. Cornelius that a physical surveillance should be placed immediately on Heller and Philadelphia will probably be instructed to interview Heller later today.

Mr. Cornelius advised that he is going to attempt to secure waivers of search from Black to search his room at the rooming house in Philadelphia; his desk at the place he works; and his laboratory in Patterson, New Jersey.

AHB:tlc

RECEIVED - R
JUN 15 1950

65-59181-17

h

✓

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

June 15, 1950

URGENT

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, PHILADELPHIA
WASHINGTON FIELD

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP DASH R. BY TEL DATED JUNE NINE LAST THE PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE ADVISED THAT WFO TELEPHONICALLY REPORTED TO PHILADELPHIA THAT FERDINAND
HELLER WAS ISSUED PASSPORT AUGUST THREE, NINETEEN FORTY NINE FOR TRAVEL IN
GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, ITALY, BELGIUM, FRANCE, SWEDEN, HOLLAND AND ENGLAND ON
BEHALF OF HIS EMPLOYER, AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO. OF AVELER. ACCORDING TO
INFO RECEIVED FROM PHILADELPHIA HELLER ARRIVED US JUNE NINE LAST FROM ROME EN
ROUTE TO HIS HOME, ONE NINE NINE WEST CHEST ST., PHILADELPHIA. HELLER BORN
PHILADELPHIA. WFO REQUESTED TO CHECK PASSPORT DIVISION, US STATE DEPT., FOR
IDENTIFIABLE DATA WHICH WILL ASSIST BUREAU IN REVIEWING BUFILES.

HOOVER

CC WASHINGTON FIELD (SPECIAL MESSENGER)

AM:12m

165-5981-18
JUN 16 1950

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R 47 NOV 18 1960

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 15 1950

TELETYPE

51 JUN 19 1950

51 JUN 17 1950

Mr. Tolson
Mr. L. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
JUN 15 6 01 PM '50
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Per

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 13, 1950

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
Tasso Lessing Black,
Lessing Black, "Doc",
"Tom"
ESPIONAGE - R

Re Birtel dated 6/8/50 entitled, "HARRY GOLD, was., ESPIONAGE-R", and report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER, dated 6/12/50, at Newark.

Attention is drawn to the referenced Newark report, which sets forth New York as the Office of Origin. Referenced Bureau teletype, which Newark did not receive, designates Philadelphia as Office of Origin, in this case.

Copies of this letter are being designated for all auxiliary offices for information and guidance.

HAS:ams
65-4332

cc: Baltimore (65-1751)
Newark (65-4074)
New Haven
New York (65-15338)
Washington Field

RECORDED - 11

INDEXED - 16

65-59181-20

JUL 11 1950

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New York
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK;
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

Re Philadelphia telephone call to New York, June 15, 1950, requesting that ALICE and NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR of FINE ORGANICS, INC. be interviewed concerning the above-named subject.

MOLNAR and his wife were contacted by SAs JOHN J. O'SPIRY and ANTHONY P. LITRENTO at 11:00 p.m. on June 15, 1950 at their residence, 111 East 88th Street, New York City, and they furnished the following information:

MOLNAR and ERNEST SEGESSEMAN are co-owners of FINE ORGANICS, INC., 211 East 19th Street, New York City, a chemical firm specializing in disinfectants. They formed this company in 1940 and have been associated in this business ever since.

MOLNAR first became acquainted with SEGESSEMAN in 1923 at Cooper Union, a technical school in New York City. Both were students at this school from 1923 to 1926. They have been close friends and associates since that time.

While at the school, SEGESSEMAN secured employment at the National Oil Products Company, (NOPCO), Harrison, New Jersey. During his employment at NOPCO, SEGESSEMAN became acquainted with TOM BLACK who also worked there. MOLNAR thereafter met BLACK through SEGESSEMAN. MOLNAR believes that his meeting with BLACK took place approximately fifteen years ago. Thereafter, MOLNAR saw BLACK infrequently over the years.

During the late 1930's, SEGESSEMAN resided in an apartment house at Newark, New Jersey, and BLACK also had an apartment in the same house. On several occasions, MOLNAR and his wife visited SEGESSEMAN at Newark and while there, they also visited with BLACK.

cc Philadelphia
Newark

APL:ac
65-15338

RECORDED - 83
INDEXED - 89
INDEXED - 53

65-59181-21

45

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 65-15338

MOLNAR and his wife described BLACK as very shabby in appearance and dress, carefree, and good-hearted but very eccentric. They explained the latter by relating that BLACK was very fond of animals such as mice, rats, and snakes. BLACK kept these animals in his home and also had a pet crow. MOLNAR believed that BLACK was very much interested in the genealogies of these animals and probably conducted experiments with them. They also recalled that BLACK had some "strange" individuals whom MOLNAR described as "downtrodden" individuals, (identities unknown), living with him from time to time. MOLNAR and his wife professed to have no knowledge of BLACK'S activities, contacts or associations although they believed he is a liberal but definitely not a Communist.

Concerning BLACK'S association at FINE ORGANICS, INC., MOLNAR related the following:

In 1942, MOLNAR'S firm started to secure Government contracts for disinfectants. At the time there occurred a shortage in cresylic acid, an important ingredient in disinfectants. Through BLACK, MOLNAR was able to learn that the Navy was going to buy quaternary ammonium compound, a substitute for the aforementioned acid. As a result of BLACK'S suggestion, MOLNAR'S firm manufactured this new compound and was able to sell it to the Navy. Because of BLACK'S suggestions, in this matter, MOLNAR and SEGESSEMAN gave BLACK a percentage of the profits realized from the sale of this compound to the Navy. MOLNAR believes that BLACK was associated with him in this venture during 1943 and 1944. He described BLACK as an excellent bacteriologist.

Since the time of their association, MOLNAR has seen BLACK infrequently. He believes that on business visits to Philadelphia within the last year, he possibly saw BLACK several times at BLACK'S present place of employment, CHARLES W. ~~WALKER~~ LABORATORY in Philadelphia. He believes the last time he saw BLACK was in late 1948 or early 1949.

JE MOLNAR then volunteered the information that BLACK and ERNEST SEGESSEMAN are acquainted with HARRY GOLD. He stated he drew this conclusion from the following incident:

In the latter part of 1947 or early 1948, MOLNAR visited the Naval Aeronautical Supply Depot located at Oxford and Martin Mills Road, Philadelphia, for the purpose of securing some Navy business. Upon entering

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 65-15338

the depot, he registered at the security desk by writing his name and the company he represented in this book. The clerk at the desk then said to MOLNAR, "How is Ernie?", (referring to ERNEST SEGESSEMAN). MOLNAR answered that ERNIE was all right and then asked the clerk how he knew ERNIE. The clerk answered that "I and my brother are friends of Tom's", (referring to TOM BLACK). MOLNAR then asked the clerk his identity and was advised that his name was JOE GOLD. The clerk also told MOLNAR that his brother was a bio-chemist employed at the Philadelphia General Hospital doing research work in cardiology. MOLNAR stated that he did not know HARRY GOLD.

MOLNAR advised that his firm did considerable work for the Government during the war but never had any restricted work but he recalled that toward the end of the war, the Navy Department requested him to make fifty pounds of some explosive. He recalls that he made one pound of this explosive and tested it at the Navy depot but because of the lack of safety equipment, he did not make any more of this material. He further stated that he did not get paid for the work by the Navy. He stated that BLACK had no connection with this work and to his knowledge, BLACK never worked on any restricted or confidential matters for the Government.

On June 16, 1950, MOLNAR was telephonically contacted for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of money he paid BLACK in connection with his work in 1943 and 1944. MOLNAR advised that to the best of his recollection, he paid BLACK \$3,000 a year for approximately two years in quarterly payments. He was also requested to furnish the identity of Mrs. EDNA SINGER who was listed as a director of FINE ORGANICS, INC. He stated that Mrs. SINGER was employed in his firm as a bookkeeper from September, 1942 to July, 1943 when she left for a better position. He explained that Mrs. SINGER was made a director of the corporation as a matter of convenience. He does not believe that she knew BLACK.

Molnar
During this conversation, BLACK was interrogated further concerning the type of restricted work he performed for the Navy toward the end of the war. He explained that the one pound of material he manufactured was a substance which was to be used in submarines as an additive to fuel in order to supply oxygen to the fuel so that it would combust under water. He again stated that BLACK had no connection whatsoever with this particular work.

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 65-15338

He also volunteered the information that he had heard from ~~ERNEST~~ SEGESSEMAN today that SEGESSEMAN was interviewed by Bureau Agents early this morning concerning BLACK. SEGESSEMAN could not recall that BLACK ever worked for them in a consultant capacity and so informed the agents. MOLNAR stated that this was understandable because first of all SEGESSEMAN had a very poor memory; secondly, MOLNAR handled the financial arrangements with BLACK.

In view of SEGESSEMAN'S alleged lack of memory concerning the employment of BLACK and because of his close friendship and association with BLACK, it is believed advisable that SEGESSEMAN be reinterviewed concerning the restricted work performed by his firm for the Navy toward the end of the war in connection with the submarine material with the view of ascertaining whether SEGESSEMAN supplied this data to BLACK in connection with BLACK'S espionage activities.

It is also suggested that BLACK be questioned to determine whether he had knowledge of this restricted work by FINE ORGANICS, INC. and whether he made an attempt to secure this data from either SEGESSEMAN or MOLNAR in connection with his espionage activities.

A teletype dated June 16, 1950 has been sent to the Bureau, Newark and Philadelphia Offices requesting the aforesaid interviews.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 5 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

9-22 PM

WASH 12 NEW YORK 6 PHILA 5 FROM NEWARK

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP - R. RE PHILA TELS JUNE THREE AND FOUR.

RECORDS NOPCO CHEMICAL CO., HARRISON, NJ, FORMERLY NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS CO., REFLECT THAT SUBJECT INVOLVED IN SERIOUS ACCIDENT MARCH TEN, THIRTYEIGHT, THE RESULT OF AN EXPLOSION OF EITHER VAPOR IN THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY. RECORDS OF THE WEST HUDSON HOSPITAL, KEARNY, NJ, REFLECT BLACK ADMITTED TO THIS HOSPITAL AS AN EMERGENCY CASE ON ABOVE DATE. HIS INJURY WAS DIAGNOSED AS SECOND DEGREE BURNS OF FACE, LEFT SHOULDER, CHEST, RIGHT FOREARM AND HAND WITH FIRST DEGREE BURNS ON LEFT HAND. DURING HIS FIRST FOUR DAYS AT THE HOSPITAL, BLACK WAS ADMINISTERED MORPHINE. THERE WAS A RECORD OF CONTINUAL DRESSING OF THE BURNS AND GRADUAL HEALING UNTIL HIS DISCHARGE ON JULY TWENTYSEVEN, THIRTYEIGHT. RECORD REFLECTED THAT DURING THE FOUR MONTHS BLACK WAS IN THE HOSPITAL HE HAD CONSTANT PAIN IN HIS LEFT ARM AND ELBOW. ON MAY FOUR, THIRTYEIGHT, LEFT THE HOSPITAL BED FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND ON JUNE NINETEEN, THIRTYEIGHT HE WENT FOR A RIDE IN AN AUTOMOBILE BUT NO INDICATION AS TO WHOM HE WAS WITH. RECORD INDICATES HE ALSO WENT RIDING ON JULY TWENTYFIVE, THIRTYEIGHT. THERE WAS NO FINANCIAL RECORD PERTAINING TO BLACK AVAILABLE AT THE HOSPITAL, AND NO RECORD OF VISITORS TO BLACK DURING HIS STAY WERE NOTED IN THE

FILE NO NURSES OR OTHER EMPLOYEES RECALL BLACK. A PATIENT-S INDEX

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CARD AT THE HOSPITAL REFLECTS HIS OCCUPATION AS BACTERIOLOGIST, HIS PARENTS AS ALFRED AND HELEN BLACK, AND THAT HE HAD LIVED HIS ENTIRE LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES. AS REFERENCE BLACK HAD LISTED THE NAME MR. E.

SEGESSEMAN, SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK. BLACK-S RELIGION WAS INDICATED AS PROTESTANT. SPACE PROVIDED FOR FAMILY HISTORY WAS MARKED NEGATIVE. SPACE PROVIDED FOR PREVIOUS HISTORY WAS MARKED QUOTE 'NO SERIOUS ILLNESS' UNQUOTE. RECORDS OF BANKERS INDEMNITY INSURANCE CO., FIFTEEN WASHINGTON ST., NEWARK, REFLECT THAT RECORD CONCERNING BLACK-S ACCIDENT IN THIRTY-EIGHT HAS BEEN DESTROYED. THERE WAS RETAINED, HOWEVER, A RECORD OF BLACK HAVING REPORTED A RASH ON HIS FACE AND NECK FROM CHEMICAL BURNS ON MAY TWENTYNINE, THIRTYSEVEN. DIAGNOSIS OF RASH INDICATED IMPETIGO. IT IS NOTED THAT THE ABOVE INSURANCE COMPANY HANDLED ALL ACCIDENT CLAIMS FOR NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS DURING PERIOD OF SUBJECT-S EMPLOYMENT. RECORDS AT NOPCO COMPANY REFLECT SUBJECT HELD GROUP LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES NO. THREE SIX FIVE ONE AND LL TWO SIX SEVEN NINE, CERTIFICATE NUMBER EIGHT SEVEN THREE WITH AETNA LIFE INSURANCE CO., HARTFORD, CONN. THESE POLICIES WERE CANCELLED JULY TWENTYEIGHT, FORTYFOUR DUE TO SUBJECT-S DISCHARGE FROM NOPCO. PAYROLL RECORDS AT NOPCO REFLECT SUBJECT-S INITIAL SALARY AT TIME OF EMPLOYMENT FEBRUARY TWENTY, THIRTYTHREE WAS ONE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE DOLLARS PER MONTH. HIS SALARY INCREASED TO ONE HUNDRED SIXTY DOLLARS JANUARY, THIRTYFIVE, TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTYFIVE DOLLARS JANUARY, THIRTY-SIX, TO ONE HUNDRED EIGHTYFIVE DOLLARS JANUARY, THIRTYSEVEN, TO ONE

PAGE THREE

HUNDRED NINETYFIVE DOLLARS JANUARY, FORTYONE AND TO TWO HUNDRED FIFTEEN DOLLARS JANUARY, FORTYFOUR, THE LATTER SALARY BEING RECEIVED AT TIME OF HIS DISCHARGE ON JUNE THIRTY, FORTYFOUR. PREVIOUS ADDRESSES LISTED AS ONE TWENTYEIGHT CORBIN AVENUE, JERSEY CITY, FIFTYFIVE OXFORD ST., UNIT ONE, NEWARK, NJ AND SEVENTEEN OXFORD, UNIT FOUR, NEWARK, NJ. RECORDS OF WEST HUDSON NATIONAL BANK, HARRISON, NJ, REFLECT SUBJECT OPENED A QUOTE CHECKMASTER UNQUOTE CHECKING ACCOUNT ON MARCH SEVENTEEN, THIRTY-NINE AND CLOSED IT IN SEPTEMBER, FORTYSEVEN. HE ALSO OPENED SMALL SAVINGS ACCOUNT IN THIRTYEIGHT WHICH IS STILL OPEN BUT INACTIVE WITH PRESENT BALANCE OF SLIGHTLY OVER ONE DOLLAR. MICRO FILM RECORDS OF SUBJECT-S CHECKS AND BANK STATEMENTS NOT AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS. RESULTS OF INSPECTION OF SAME WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NO OTHER BANKING CONNECTIONS OF SUBJECT NOTED IN NJ. SELECTIVE SERVICE RECORDS, TRENTON, NJ, REFLECT SUBJECT REGISTERED OCTOBER SIXTEEN, FORTY AT NEWARK UNDER ORDER NO. TWO EIGHT EIGHT SIX. HE RESIDED AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK. MAINTAINED TWO B CLASSIFICATION DURING WAR BLACK SUBMITTED AFFIDAVIT DATED JULY ONE, FORTYFOUR STATING HE HAD CHANGED HIS EMPLOYMENT TO FINE ORGANIC, INC., TWO ONE ONE EAST NINETEEN TH ST., NYC, WHERE OCCUPIED AS RESEARCH CONSULTANT. INSPECTION OF FILE INDICATED SUBJECT PROBABLY CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT WITH THIS ORGANIZATION UNTIL END OF WORLD WAR TWO. RECORDS OF SECRETARY OF STATE, TRENTON, NJ REFLECT FINE ORGANIC, INC., FIRST INCORPORATED IN NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER

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PAGE FOUR

FOUR, THIRTYNINE, AND IN NJ ON APRIL FOURTEEN, FORTYEIGHT. NEW YORK ADDRESS OF THIS COMPANY LISTED AS TWO ONE ONE EAST NINETEENTH ST., NYC, WITH NJ PLANT AT TWO NAUGHT ONE MAIN ST., LODI, NJ. FIRM INCORPORATED FOR MANUFACTURING, PURCHASE AND SALE OF CHEMICALS, PHARMACEUTICALS AND BOTANICALS. AGENT FOR STATE OF NJ LISTED AS ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, WHO RESIDES ONE SIX FIVE TWELFTH ST., WOOD-RIDGE, NJ. OFFICERS OF COMPANY SHOWN AS NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR, PRESIDENT, ONE FOUR ONE EAST EIGHTYEIGHT ST., NYC, ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, AND A. S. RICHER, GENERAL MANAGER. IT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN SET FORTH THAT SUBJECT AND ERNEST SEGESSEMAN JOINTLY OCCUPIED AN APARTMENT AT CHELLIS AUSTIN APARTMENTS, NEWARK, NJ, FROM NINETEEN THIRTYTWO TO THIRTYSEVEN, AND WERE CLOSE ASSOCIATES WHILE BOTH WERE EMPLOYED AT NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS FURTHER REVIEW OF RECORDS AT NOPCO COMPANY REFLECTS ENTRY EUNDER QUOTE IN CASE OF ACCIDENT NOTIFY UNQUOTE THE NAME MRS. A. BRUCE BLACK, ORANGEVILLE, PA. PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT SHOWN AS AMERICAN CYANAMID CORPORATION AND HOLBROOK MANUFACTURING COMPANY. RECORDS OF AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY LINDEN, NJ, REFLECT TASSO L. BLACK EMPLOYED BY THEM JUNE TWENTYFOUR, TWENTYNINE AS CHEMIST. BLACK LAID OFF DUE TO REDUCTION IN FORCE MAY FIFTEEN, THIRTY. ADDRESS LISTED AS TWO SIX FIVE EAST STREET, BLOOMSBURG, PA. JAMES S. MAC INTOSH, FACTORY MANAGER AND LATER PRESIDENT OF HOLBROOK MANUFACTURING CO., JERSEY CITY, NJ, STATED SUBJECT EMPLOYED AS CHEMIST FROM APPROXIMATELY NINETEEN TWENTYNINE TO THIRTYTHREE.

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PAGE FIVE

BLACK SUCCEEDED ON THIS JOB BY HARRY GOLD. HE DESCRIBED BLACK AS LIKABLE FELLOW, QUIET AND GOOD WORKER AND LIKED BY EVERYONE IN PLANT. ACCORDING TO MAC INTOSH, BLACK LEFT COMPANY TO WORK TOWARDS MASTER-S DEGREE AND HE HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD FROM HIM SINCE THAT TIME. HE STATED HOLBROOK MADE INDUSTRIAL TEXTILE SOAPS AND WENT INTO RECEIVERSHIP IN THIRTYSIX, FINALLY CEASING OPERATION IN AUGUST, FORTYTWO. MAC INTOSH STATED THAT ONLY PERSON HE RECALLS WHO WOULD KNOW BLACK AND GOLD IS FREDERICK STETSON. RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WITH STETSON PREVIOUSLY SET FORTH IN HARRY GOLD CASE. MAC INTOSH COULD GIVE NO INFORMATION CONCERNING ANY ACTIVITIES OF BLACK OR GOLD. SELECTIVE SERVICE CORRESPONDENCE IN NOPCO FILES REFLECT NOPCO ENGAGED IN CONTRACT PRO CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR TWO AND THAT BLACK WAS THEN WORKING ON DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIALS FOR FLAME PROOFING AND MILDEW PROOFING CLOTH. FURTHER ENTRIES REFLECT BLACK WAS CONCERNED WITH BACTERIOLOGICAL FUNGUS AND OTHER PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH VARIOUS CHEMICAL AND VITAMIN PRODUCTS. INTERVIEW OF SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL AT NOPCO INDICATES THAT BLACK WAS EXTREMELY LAZY AND LACKED INITIATIVE IN HIS WORK. HE WAS CONSIDERED AS FRIENDLY AND LIKABLE BUT FEW EMPLOYEES WERE AWARE OF THE RESULTS OF HIS WORK. HE WAS KNOWN AS A QUOTE LONE WOLF UNQUOTE WHO WORKED IN A SMALL LABORATORY ALONE. HIS DISCHARGE FROM NOPCO RESULTED FROM HIS PREPARATION OF REPORTS PERTAINING TO RESULTS OF HIS TEST WITH OUT HAVING ACTUALLY CONDUCTED THE TESTS. AT TIME OF DISCHARGE HE WAS ENGAGE

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IN CONTROL CHECKS ON EVAPORATED MILK WHEREIN HE WAS SUPPOSED TO TEST FOR BACTERIA CONTAMINATION ARISING WITHIN VITAMIN D EXTRACTS WHICH WERE TO BE ADDED TO MILK. IT WAS LEARNED THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED NEGATIVE RESULTS WITHOUT ACTUALLY TESTING FOR BACTERIA CONTENT. SUBJECT DEEMED BY SUPERVISORS TO BE INTELLIGENT CHEMIST BUT DUE TO LACK OF INITIATIVE DID NOT PROGRESS RAPIDLY. ALL PERSONS INTERVIEWED STATED THAT ONLY INDIVIDUAL WHO WOULD KNOW BLACK WELL IS ERNEST SEGESSEMAN. SUBJECT KNOWN TO BE INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND WAS USED BY THE COMPANY TO MAKE PHOTOGRAPHS THROUGH MICROSCOPES OF BACTERIA GROWTHS. INCOMPLETE ATTENDANCE RECORDS AT NOPCO REFLECT VACATION ON JUNE THREE, THIRTYSIX AND JULY TWENTYFOUR, THIRTYSIX AND FROM MAY ONE TO MAY TWELVE, FORTYFOUR. ⁶SICK LEAVE TAKEN ON NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, FORTYONE AND DECEMBER ONE, FORTYTWO. NO RECORDS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO THIRTYSIX. ABOVE RECORDS APPARENTLY DID NOT REFLECT ALL VACATIONS TAKEN. NOTATION ON RECORD AT TIME OF DISCHARGE REFLECTS TOTAL OF ONE AND ONE HALF DAYS SICK LEAVE DURING TOTAL PERIOD EMPLOYMENT. INVESTIGATION CHELLIS AUSTIN APARTMENTS REFLECT INTEREST OF BLACK AND SEGESSEMAN IN SMALL ANIMALS. BLACK KNOWN TO READ DURING EVENING WITH LARGE BLACK SNAKE COILED AROUND HIS NECK. MAINTAINED TWO PET CROWS IN APARTMENT WHO WERE ADEPT TO CATCHING MARBLES THROWN BY BLACK. TENANTS RESIDING BELOW BLACK HAD COMPLAINED TO MANAGEMENT CONCERNING CONTINUOUS DROPPING OF THESE MARBLES ON FLOOR ABOVE. APARTMENT MANAGEMENT RECEIVED TOTAL OF TWENTYFIVE COMPLAINTS CONCERNING BLACK PLAYING RADIO LATE AT NIGHT. LEGAL DIVISION OF APARTMENT MANAGEMENT EVENTUALLY TOOK ACTION TO PREVENT THIS PRACTICE. INVESTIGATION FURTHER

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REFLECTS THAT A MR. AND MRS. MARVIN HENSCHEL OCCUPIED BLACK-S APARTMENT FROM EARLY NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT UNTIL JANUARY, FORTYNINE. BLACK DID NOT SUBLET THE APARTMENT TO HENSCHEL BUT ALLOWED HIM TO USE IT AFTER BLACK LEFT FOR PHILADELPHIA. WHEN HENSCHEL FOUND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS BLACK THEN RELINQUISHED HIS APARTMENT. JANITOR BELIEVES THAT MRS. HENSCHEL IS THE DAUGHTER OF ONE OF THE OFFICIALS IN THE CONCERN AT WHICH BLACK BECAME EMPLOYED IN FORTYEIGHT AT PHILADELPHIA. INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE HENSCHEL IN NJ UNPRODUCTIVE TO DATE. ALL POLICE AND CREDIT RECORDS NEGATIVE REGARDING BLACK. SUBJECT UNKNOWN TO OFFICE INFORMANTS.

MC KEE

CORR-PAGE6 LINE 11 LAST WORD IS "SICK" LINE FIFTEEN 9 THIS IS "SICK"

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA NK R 12 WA - WJR

NY

PH NK R 5 PH FMM

KMT NY

NK R 6 NYC REOT

TU ALL DISC PLS

cc: *m. Van Land*

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TELETYPE

CONF TWO STNS

WASHINGTON 48 AND PHILADELPHIA 8 FROM NEW YORK 9

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. MOVIES OF SUBJECT AND STILL PHOTOS SHOWN TO ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY WITHOUT EFFECTING AN IDENTIFICATION. ROBERT GORDON SWITZ UNABLE TO IDENTIFY PHOTOS OF SUBJECT. LOUIS BUDENZ WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO VIEW PHOTOS UNTIL JUNE FOURTEEN, NEXT. RECORDS OF PUBLIC NAT-L BANK AND TRUST CO. SHOW THE FOLLOWING CHARGES TO THE ACCT OF FINE ORGANICS, INC.-- JAN. NINETEEN FORTYSIX, THREE CHECKS FOR SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS EACH AND ONE CHECK FOR THE SAME AMT ON JAN. TWENTYNINE FORTYSEVEN. ONLY RECORD OF PAYEE IN ABV CHECKS WOULD BE AT FO, INC. FOLLOWING INFO OBTAINED THROUGH FILE REVIEW ON FO, INC. AND ITS OFFICES-- IN JULY FORTYNINE, THE US AIR FORCE ADVISED THAT FO, INC., HELD UNRESTRICTED AIR FORCE CONTRACTS ON A FIXED PRICE BASIS. ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT RECEIVED IN OCTOBER, FORTYONE, ALLEGING THAT FO, INC., SIX TWO FIVE GREENWICH ST., NYC, WAS ILLEGALLY DISTILLING ALCOHOL. COMPLAINT REFERRED TO ATU. NOTATION "NICHOLAS M. NOLNAR, TWO ONE ONE EAST NINETEEN ST., NYC", REPORTEDLY FOUND IN CARD INDEX OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES KEPT ON DESK OF DR. IRVING VANYA SOLINS, FORMER UNRA EMPLOYEE AND FORMER ASSOCIATE OF ALFRED J. STERN. NOLNAR

IS PRESIDENT OF FO, INC. CONCERNING ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, VP AND SECRETARY

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JUN 20 1950

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Latimore

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PAGE TWO

OF FO, INC., FILES REFLECT ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT RECEIVED TO THE EFFECT THAT ONE ERNEST SEGESSEMAN OF JERSEY CITY, NJ, WAS A COMMUNIST. NO RECORD CONCERNING A.S. RICHER, GEN. MGR. OF FO, INC. WHEN INTERVIEWED ROBERT G. SUTLIFF, CIVIL SERVICE INVESTIGATOR, SIX FOUR ONE WASHINGTON, ST., NYC, ADVISED HE KNEW SUBJECT AS TASSO BLACK IN BLOOMSBURG, PA., OVER TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO. SUTLIFF DID NOT KNOW SUBJECT HAD CHANGED HIS NAME TO THOMAS L. BLACK AND DOES NOT RECALL SEEING BLACK SINCE NINETEEN TWENTYFIVE. SUTLIFF COULD FURNISH NO PERTINENT INFO. H. C. ROGERS, TWO FOUR ONE WEST FOURTH ST., IDENTIFIED. INVESTIGATION REFLECTS ONE HARRIET C. ROGERS, FORMERLY OF TWO FOUR ONE WEST FOURTH ST., WAS MARRIED LAST YEAR TO A MAN NAMED SEGESSEMAN, WHO IS POSSIBLY ERNEST SEGESSEMAN. FILE REVIEW REFLECTS INFO RE ONE HARRIETT COPELAND ROGERS, AKA., HARRIETT MUNDEN, WHO MIGHT BE IDENTICAL. LATTER INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATED AS DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT IN FORTYEIGHT, BUFILE SEVENTYSEVEN DASH FOUR ONE FOUR THREE EIGHT. LACK OF INFO PREVENTS CONCLUSIVE IDENTIFICATION. NY FILES NEGATIVE ON JACOB I. FASS AND MEYER FASS BOTH OF THREE SIX SEVEN MILLER AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY, TELEPHONE NY EIGHT DASH NINE FIVE TWO THREE.

SCHEIDT

PH ACK & DISC PLS, WA HOLD

PH NY R8 PH JGM

cc: Mr. Lamm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 65-1332

NEW HAVEN, CONN.	6/19/50	6/14/50	REPORT MADE BY EDWARD W. WATKINS
TITLE THOMAS L. BLACK, was			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information pertaining to Subject's group insurance with Aetna Life Insurance Company set out.

BUC

See 1944 group insurance reflect 6.12.12.07

DETAILS:

Mr. C. J. JOHNSON, Assistant Secretary, Group Insurance Department, Aetna Life Insurance Company, Hartford, Connecticut, advised that the records of that concern reflected that the subject was insured under Certificate #873, Contract 3651 on November 28, 1943. Date of birth was shown as July 9, 1907 and employment with the National Oil Products Company of Harrison, New Jersey began on February 20, 1933. The subject was insured as THOMAS L. BLACK, in the amount of \$2000, with \$1000 additional in event of accidental death, under Certificate LL 2679. The subject's estate was the beneficiary of the policy. The subject was described only as a white male. The insurance was cancelled when the subject's employment was terminated on June 30, 1944.

The Ordinary Life, Accident, and Health records of the Aetna Life Insurance Company reflected no information pertaining to the subject.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED

Walter N. Willis

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ME 65-1332

REFERENCE: Report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER at Newark dated 6/12/50.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

FILE NO. **65-1332**

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/19/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/11/50	REPORT MADE BY EDWARD R. WHELAN
TITLE THOMAS L. BLACK, was			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information pertaining to Subject's group insurance with Aetna Life Insurance Company set out.

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DETAILS: Mr. C. J. JAKKIN, Assistant Secretary, Group Insurance Department, Aetna Life Insurance Company, Hartford, Connecticut, advised that the records of that concern reflected that the subject was insured under Certificate #673, Contract 3651 on November 23, 1943. Date of birth was shown as July 3, 1907 and employment with the National Oil Products Company of Harrison, New Jersey began on February 20, 1933. The subject was insured as THOMAS L. BLACK, in the amount of \$2000, with \$1000 additional in event of accidental death, under Certificate LL 2679. The subject's estate was the beneficiary of the policy. The subject was described only as a white male. The insurance was cancelled when the subject's employment was terminated on June 30, 1944.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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